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SECURITY COUNCIL
Forty-ninth year

Letter dated 28 October 1994 from the Permanent Representative of Turkey to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to transmit herewith a letter dated 28 October 1994 addressed to you by H.E. Mr. Osman Ertuğ, Representative of the Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus.

I should be grateful if the text of the present letter and its annex could be circulated as a document of the forty-ninth session of the General Assembly, under agenda item 70, and of the Security Council.

(Signed) İnal BATU
Permanent Representative

Annex

Letter dated 28 October 1994 from Mr. Osman Ertuğ
addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to refer to a speech made by Mr. Alecos Shambos, the Greek Cypriot representative, at the 9th meeting of the First Committee during the general debate on disarmament and international security agenda items on 24 October 1994.

Owing to the fact that the Turkish Cypriot side has no representation in the General Assembly and its relevant Committee as a result of the forcible usurpation of the seat of government by the Greek Cypriot side in December 1963, my response is in writing.

The Greek Cypriot representative, in a manner that has become characteristic of his administration's "blame game" against Turkey and the Turkish Cypriot side, refers to the "continuing Turkish military occupation" in Cyprus. We totally reject this wrong and misleading terminology as another sign of the inability of the Greek Cypriot side to come to terms with the reality, the reality that Turkey, as a Guarantor Power under the Treaty of Guarantee of 1960, plays only a protective and deterrent role in Cyprus, providing the Turkish Cypriots with the security they need for their survival by preventing the repetition of Greek Cypriot aggression.

I wish to stress that the Greek Cypriot side's words on "demilitarization and disarmament in Cyprus" are empty rhetoric. It is obvious that this is a ploy to deprive the Turkish Cypriots of the only effective means of security, and eventually do away with them by using the Greek Cypriot side's numerical advantage, as they attempted to do in 1963 when the island was virtually demilitarized. It was then largely the Greek Cypriot paramilitary forces, private armies and other underground armed elements that played havoc with the Turkish Cypriot community, and it was only Turkey's guarantee that prevented the Greek Cypriot aggressors from completing their bloody schemes.

If, however, the Greek Cypriot side is serious about improving relations and consolidating security on the island, it should respond positively to President Rauf Denktaş' proposal for a non-aggression agreement between the two sides. In the existing atmosphere of mistrust, this is a much more realistic and constructive proposal both for alleviating some of this mistrust and for addressing any further security concerns that each side may have.

I would be grateful if the present letter is circulated as a document of the General Assembly, under agenda item 70, and of the Security Council.

(Signed) Osman ERTUĞ
Representative
Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus